

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A computer system comprising:
2 computer-readable media,
3 a reader program for rendering information in a computer-
4 readable document file in human-cognizable form, said reader
5 program being stored on said computer-readable media, said reader
6 program including
7 a document parser for identifying a network location
8 specified by an original version of said document file,
9 a network interface for accessing an updated version of
10 said document file via said network location, and
11 a renderer for causing information in said updated version
12 to be rendered in human-cognizable form.
- 1 2. A computer system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said reader
2 program further includes a host interface for receiving a help
3 request from a local version of a host application, said document
4 file being a help file for said host application, said updated version
5 of said document file being a most recent version of said document
6 file for a most recent version of said host program.
- 1 3. A computer system as recited in Claim 2 wherein said document
2 is in pdf or html format.
- 1 4. A computer system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said reader
2 program further includes a host interface for receiving a help
3 request from a local version of a host application, said document
4 file being a help file for said host application, said updated version
5 of said document file being a most-recent version of said document
6 for said local version of said host application.

1 5. A computer system as recited in Claim 4 wherein said host
2 interface also provides for receiving a version identification for said
3 host application from said host application.

1 6. A method comprising:
2 accessing an original version of a document file, said original
3 version of said document file specifying a network location;
4 accessing an updated version of said document file via said
5 network location, said updated version having updated information;
6 and
7 rendering said updated information in human-cognizable form.

1 7. A method as recited in Claim 6 further comprising receiving a
2 help request from a local version of a host application, said
3 accessing an original version occurring in response to said help
4 request, said updated version corresponding to a most-recent
5 version of said document file for a most-recent version of said host
6 application.

1 8. A method as recited in Claim 7 wherein said document is in html
2 or pdf format.

1 9. A method as recited in Claim 6 further comprising receiving a
2 help request from a local version of a host application, said
3 accessing an original version occurring in response to said help
4 request, said updated version corresponding to a most-recent
5 version of said document file for a said local version of said host
6 application.

1 10. A method as recited in Claim 9 further comprising receiving
2 version identification for said host application from said host
3 application.